

REMARKS

Summary

Applicants have rewritten Claims 1 and 2, cancelled Claim 9, and added Claims 14-30. No new matter has been added as a result of the amendment.

Substance of Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the interview on December 14, 2004. In the interview between the Examiner and Applicant's agent Anthony P. Curtis, Reg. 46,193 amendments to the claims were discussed. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the 35 U.S.C. 103 rejections could be overcome if Claim 1 were rewritten. Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten Claim 1 and added new independent Claims 14 and 24.

Objection to Specification

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the title of the Application as being not descriptive of the invention to which the claims are directed. Applicant has amended the title to "Active Matrix Display Device With Asymmetrical Reflection," and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the title. If the Examiner objects to the new title, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide a suitable title in the succeeding Office Action.

Rejection of Claims

35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claims 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the enablement requirement and containing subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Applicants have rewritten Claim 1 so as to traverse the rejection of Claims 8-11.

35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants have rewritten Claim 2 to replace the typographical error “phase” with “shape” and submit that Claim 2 overcomes the rejection.

35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5, 7 and 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshii (U.S. Patent Application 2002/0030774) in view of Grupp (U.S. Patent 4,904,060); Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshii in view of Grupp in further view of Takatsuka (U.S. Patent 6,421,106); and Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshii in view of Grupp in further view of Yamazaki (U.S. Patent 6,362,866). Applicants have rewritten Claim 1 and submit that Claim 1 overcomes the rejection.

Claim 1 recites that the display device contains a reflecting layer with asymmetrical reflection properties formed on the more distant substrate (from the viewer) side than the other of the substrates. The reflecting layer forms pixel electrodes. An alignment layer has one surface that contacts the reflecting layer and an opposing planar surface that contacts the optical modulation layer.

New Claim 14 recites that the display device contains switching elements and the reflecting layer with asymmetrical reflection properties. The reflecting layer forms pixel electrodes. In addition, an insulating layer is disposed on the substrate. The insulating layer contains a corrugated surface on which the reflecting layer is disposed and a flat portion on which the switching elements are disposed.

New Claim 24 recites that the display device contains the switching elements and the reflecting layer. The reflecting layer forms pixel electrodes. The reflecting layer contacts an upper or lower surface of the switching elements as well as the edge of an upper layer of the switching elements.

As indicated by the Examiner, none of the cited references anticipate or suggest the arrangements of new independent Claims 1, 14, or 24.

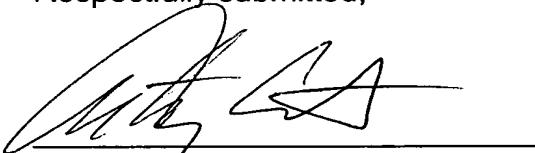
Accordingly, Claims 1, 14, or 24 are patentable over the cited references.

For at least this reason, the dependent claims are patentable over the cited references.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seek an allowance thereof. If for any reason the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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